I: Maes--112 E-5 (1913-1914) 1924 FO32 Mongo FO32
Dengese F016
Sakata F043

MD 915

The fact that these wooden cups are found in the Bena Dibele-Kole region is not without interest. Until the present time they had been reported only among the peoples in the region between the Kasai and the Sankuru, and certain authors even regarded them as characteristic of the Bakuba people. We shall say more on this subject later.

M 266

If cannibalism ever existed, it has disappeared. When questioned about this, the natives as a rule vigorously deny any connection with this barbarous custom, but they do not hesitate to accuse their neighbors of the worst misdeeds. In our opinion, the peoples of the Bena Dibele-Kole region were once anthropophagous and practiced cannibalism until quite recently. It seems probable to us that on a favorable occasion they would not resist temptation even today.

M 261

Geophagy is better known. Children eat earth among all these peoples. Among the Basakata, Lesa, Mosengere, and Wadia, all the natives and especially the women are earth-eaters. Potter's earth and the clay from the nests of certain termites are very highly prized.

Fig. 86. Bobale Children. One of them shows signs of geophagy.

The natives seem to eat earth as a delicacy and perhaps also as a medicament. To call it food would be an exaggeration, for the amount eaten is very small. [Ed., a passage is omitted from the last paragraph, page 150, to the end of the section, page 151.]

[151] Hemp and Tobacco

M 276

The consequences of using hemp are more disastrous. This sad practice, which seems to have been quite widespread among certain peoples, is fortunately on the wane, thanks to the vigorous intervention of the government.